

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Eliza Symonds Bell, January 10, 1879, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Mrs. Alexander Melville Bell. 10 East 14th., St., January 10th., 1879. My dear Mrs. Bell:

I have written to you and addressed a New Years card to you but somehow neither letters or card were sent. I hope this note will succeed in reaching you, the other correspondence was hardly satisfactory.

I beg your pardon for detaining Alec's proofs a day or two. Grandpa is much interested in everything of or about Alec and wanted to keep the proofs until he could finish reading them.

I have short notes from Alec every day, but they are very hurried and say little except that he is getting along well in his examination and cross examination and is hopeful of success in the case. He has been detained in Washington much longer than he expected and I am getting very impatient to see him again. He finds it very hard being away from his work in Boston but I hope by attending to the telephone now he will be through with it the sooner.

I hope you will like the pair of little Japanese pictures I send. I bought a box of them in San Francisco and thought them so pretty I wanted you to have some. They are very delicate and must be kept from the air which will warp them. I wish I could have had them framed nicely for you.

I wonder if you have had such disagreeable weather as we, bitter cold with now and then arthaw, which makes the streets almost impassable. The streets here are disgraceful, I never saw anything so bad in Boston indeed it is the cleanest city in this country I have

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seen which is not saying much. Alec seems to have a half hope you may be induced to make him a visit in Boston. I hopemit will be sometime soon that I may have an opportunity of seeing you. I am only awaiting Alec's return to go to Cambridge for a visit to my cousin Miss Blatchford. We shall be a sadly separated family. Mamma and Papa in Washington my sister here, Berta and Grace in Bradford and I in 2 Cambridge.

I hope you and Mr. Bell are quite well, please give him my love. With kind regards to the Misses Symonds and love to yourself,

Believe me, Affectionately yours, Mabel. I wonder if you have heard from Mr. and Mrs. Symonds lately?